

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 080398.P196	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US 00/03611	International filing date (day/month/year) 10/02/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 12/02/1999
Applicant SONY ELECTRONICS, INC.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1
☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 00/ 03611

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

The abstract is modified as follows:

line 1: after "present" change "invention" into "disclosure";
line 3: delete "(lost/damaged)".

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04N7/68 H04N7/26

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H04N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 398 741 A (CANON KK) 22 November 1990 (1990-11-22) column 4, line 11 -column 5, line 16 column 6, line 49 -column 13, line 43 abstract; figure 8 ---	1-40
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 018, no. 105 (E-1512), 21 February 1994 (1994-02-21) & JP 05 304659 A (SONY CORP), 16 November 1993 (1993-11-16) abstract ---	1-40
A	EP 0 597 576 A (SONY CORP) 18 May 1994 (1994-05-18) column 1, line 1 -column 6, line 25 abstract --- -/--	1-40

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
 "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
 "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
 "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
 "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"S" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 June 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/06/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

La, V

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/03611

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 150 210 A (HOSHI HIDENORI ET AL) 22 September 1992 (1992-09-22) column 3, line 27 -column 4, line 28 column 4, line 63 -column 5, line 68 abstract -----	1-40
P,A	WO 99 21090 A (SONY ELECTRONICS INC) 29 April 1999 (1999-04-29) page 17, line 11 - line 28 section "Data recovery", pages 36-59 abstract; figures 4,5 -----	1-40

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 00/03611

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0398741	A	22-11-1990	JP 2305280 A	18-12-1990
			JP 2951967 B	20-09-1999
			JP 2305281 A	18-12-1990
			JP 2305282 A	18-12-1990
			DE 69031638 D	04-12-1997
			DE 69031638 T	19-03-1998
			US 5448298 A	05-09-1995

JP 05304659	A	16-11-1993	NONE	

EP 0597576	A	18-05-1994	JP 6086252 A	25-03-1994
			JP 6086247 A	25-03-1994
			DE 69328005 D	13-04-2000
			US 5481554 A	02-01-1996

US 5150210	A	22-09-1992	JP 2689555 B	10-12-1997
			JP 2172388 A	03-07-1990
			JP 2870770 B	17-03-1999

WO 9921090	A	29-04-1999	AU 1115499 A	10-05-1999
			AU 1115599 A	10-05-1999
			AU 1116899 A	10-05-1999
			AU 1119199 A	10-05-1999
			AU 1119299 A	10-05-1999
			AU 1194399 A	10-05-1999
			AU 1274399 A	10-05-1999
			AU 1362999 A	10-05-1999
			WO 9921372 A	29-04-1999
			WO 9921124 A	29-04-1999
			WO 9921368 A	29-04-1999
			WO 9921369 A	29-04-1999
			WO 9921285 A	29-04-1999
			WO 9921125 A	29-04-1999
			WO 9921286 A	29-04-1999
